VOL-1 ISSUE - 21
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SEP 03-09, 2021
Latest Art, Culture, Food, Tourism news, views & announcements

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE

INK OCHI

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

21

FREE weekly collection

"PEOPLE YOU MAY KNOW"
DR. AYSHA MUNIRA

HERITAGE CRUCIFIED
DR. BINUMOL TOM

JAPANESE DAISUGI

- ART GALLERY
- TAROT READING

Extended till Nov 30, 2021
Art show featuring 267 Malayali artists. Organised by: **Kochi Biennale Foundation.**
In five venues - Alappuzha, Kerala.
Curated by:

bose krishnamachari

AN ENLIGHTENED ART ACHARI

Views by:

- **Artist Pushkin EH**
- **Asst. Prof. Alicen Jacob**

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE
INK OCHI
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Editor's Note

Organising an Art Exhibition

It’s no secret that showcasing your artwork in an exhibition can be a little bit daunting. Whilst exhibiting your pieces definitely opens up your art to a wider audience, there’s always the lingering worry of negative feedback. But it’s a risk worth taking.

We have seen many editions of "Kochi Biennale" and now "Lokame Tharavadu" art exhibitions organised by Bose Krishnamachari. From this, each and every artist should know how to organise solo art exhibitions.

When you’re thinking about how to organise an art exhibition, the first thing that springs to mind is the artwork,. Wherever you’re showing your work, you’ll still have a large say in the pieces you exhibit. Select art that shows a spectrum of your skills and capabilities; a range of pieces, which reflect your journey as an artist, as well as the works you’re most proud of.

Try and pick pieces that could compliment each other in terms of colour, style or medium to tie the group of works together. Think about the gallery space and how visitors are likely to travel around it. How can you use this to control the order in which the works are seen to design a narrative.

The most important thing to remember when organising your art exhibition is to be confident. Have faith in yourself and your artworks, and remember you’re there for a reason. There may be criticism or less-than-favourable feedback from some people, but if so, you can use this as a tool to grow and develop yourself in the future. Overall, be positive, network, and use the opportunity to showcase yourself to the art world.

Happy Reading...!!
Varghese T. Thomas

FOR SALE

Untitled

Code: INK169

Artist: Sunil Linus De

Medium: Watercolour

Surface: Handmade paper 440 gsm

Size: 14x11 inches - Rolled

Price: Rs.20000/-

Contact:
WhatsApp
8547107471

FOR SALE

Title:
Music of Soul

Code: INK170

Artist: Aashima Mehrotra
Medium: Acrylic
Surface: Canvas
Size: 24x36 inches - Rolled
Price: Rs.50000/-

Contact:
WhatsApp
8547107471

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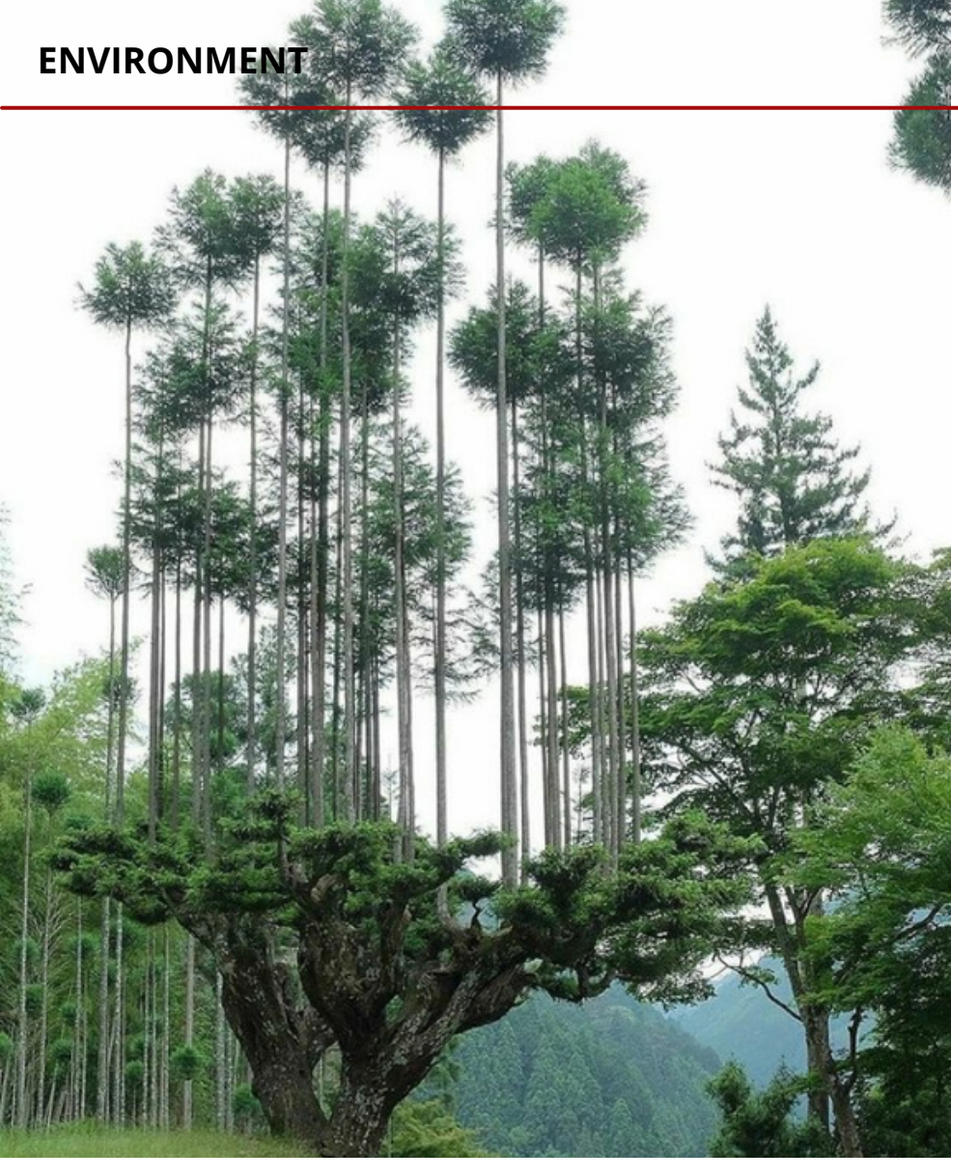
INKochi eMagazine | Sep 03-09, 2021
Vol-1 Issue-21



Daisugi

AN EXTRAORDINARY TECHNIQUE

Source: Stunning Life Style

The Japanese have been producing wood for 700 years without cutting down trees. In the 14th century, the extraordinary daisugi technique was born in Japan. Indeed, the daisugi provide that these trees will be planted for future generations and not be cut down but pruned as if they were giant bonsai trees; by applying this technique to cedars, the wood that can be obtained is uniform, straight and without knots, practically perfect for construction. A pruning as a rule of art that allows the tree to grow and germinate while using its wood, without ever cutting it down. Extraordinary technique. ~ Sir David Attenborough.

Daisugi

AN EXTRAORDINARY TECHNIQUE

Literally translating to platform cedar, daisugi is a 14th or 15th-century technique that offers an efficient, sustainable, and visually stunning approach to forestry. The method originated in Kyoto and involves pruning the branches of Kitayama cedar so that the remaining shoots grow straight upward from a platform. Rather than harvesting the entire tree for lumber, loggers can fell just the upper portions, leaving the base and root structure intact.

Daisugi

AN EXTRAORDINARY TECHNIQUE

Although daisugi mostly is used in gardens or bonsai today, it originally was developed to combat a seedling shortage when the demand for taruki, a type of impeccably straight and knot-free lumber, was high. Because the upper shoots of Kitayama cedar can be felled every 20 years, which is far sooner than with other methods, the technique grew in popularity.

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An initiative by :
Artist - John V Pallathatta

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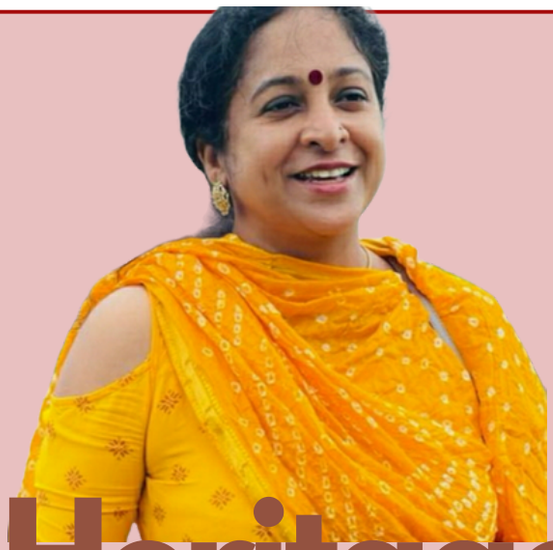
Drop in : Mulanthuruthy
Ernakulam, Near Kochi, Kerala



Heritage Crucified

BY: DR. BINUMOL TOM

DEAN (U G), Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology (Govt Engineering College), Kottayam and Professor in Architecture, Department of Architecture, RIT

Dr. Binumol Tom is a Conservation Architect and has experience in conserving historic buildings.

She has authored two books viz "Traditional Conservation practices of Timber Architecture– a case study of Thai kottaram, Travancore published by INTACH UK Trust (2007) and "Glimpses of Heritage – The City of Thiruvananthapuram", published by IIA Trivandrum Centre (2011). She has also authored many chapters and published in various publications.

"Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
You shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in".
Thus say Isaiah 58.12 in the Bible.

Yet, in the present world we witness many historic churches crumbling to dust to give way for modern ones. One among the "twin churches", which is dedicated to Mary, erected in 1864, located at Ramapuram, a quaint little town in Pala, Kottayam, Kerala, is a striking example of this phenomenon.

Heritage Crucified

The disputed portion of the twin churches of Ramapuram, the protected monument of the Department of Archaeology, has collapsed! The matter is still waiting for final verdict at the Hon'ble apex court for justice! Where are the guardian angels of heritage who under law should be protecting every brick and every stone of their heritage monuments? Shame on us that we couldn't protect the disputed portions till the final verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme court comes! Was it deliberately left exposed for favouring a purposeful engineered crime, I suspect! It collapsed brick by brick, inch by inch to utter dismay! This is the real world of sin and sadness with no hope for justice!

Heritage Crucified

Based on available historical records, the presence of a Christian community at Ramapuram dates back to the last decades of the 12th century. The twin churches consists of two architectural gems. The smaller, and the older one is known as St. Augustine's Church. It dates back to 1450. This church is a place of pilgrimage because the mortal remains of the Blessed Thevarkattil Kunjachan remains interred here. This church has been twice rebuilt, the latter in the Portuguese architectural language in the year 1599. The altar of this church epitomises the Indian architectural style and the murals prior to the advent of the Portuguese.

On 18th August 2021, Thursday I was there at the Ramapuram Twin church premises inspecting the condition of the protected heritage churches out of my concern about how they would behave in rains and I didn't observe any stress or strain usually old buildings face before they collapse.

But it was all soaked in rains because that portion was not protected, instead looked as deliberately exposed to rain and wind. The structures stayed strong and healthy though I had seen signs of neglect all over the protected monument named St Mary's Church, one among the twin churches of Ramapuram.

There were many workers making concrete slabs to cover the cemetery units around 12 PM and I had a chit chat with them as I tried to get into the interior of the left transept of the church which was used by the authorities to store the building scaffolding and materials making me feel ashamed of the condition of a protected monument of the State.

But today I understood that if you want to murder a building which is the reminiscence of the past one doesn't even need to leave a tap open for the water to make its way to crime. One can even engineer the crime leaving the blame on the rains!

Heritage Crucified

The rest of the disputed portions are still intact. Praying that the Department of Archaeology will take immediate measures to protect those portions along with writing FIR and mahazar of the departed portion while singing an ode to a lost monument!

Photos: Dr. Binumol Tom

The twin churches of Ramapuram, Protected Monument of the State

Portion marked as B has collapsed, partly portion C and now what is left intact is portion A which is used as a storage house of scaffolding materials and building materials..... State of Built heritage under protected monument category!

A – Hall on the Northern side of the church
B – Two floors at the Western end
C- One room on the second floor above Sankeerti

Do Not Deny Art Any Longer

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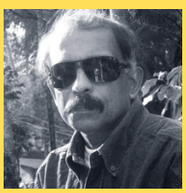
AN ENLIGHTENED ART ACHARI



Written in Malayalam by:
Artist Pushkin EH

Translated by:
Asst. Prof. Alicen Jacob

If the art proposed by Darwin was not denied…

If only, Bose Krishnamachari was the assessor at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts…

If so, then, the Italian Jewish Chemist who declared that “the aims of life are the best defence against death”, the one who survived the Holocaust and penned several books ranging from essays, short stories, poetry to a novel, Primo Levi, would never have refused to slowly descend down the stairs and choose to say his final goodbye by jumping off the top floor of his residence...

Do Not Deny Art Any Longer

If so, then, the story of modernism in painting would have been entirely different, whether it be the life and paintings of Jackson Pollock or the thoughts and stories of Jean Paul Sartre. Then, Edvard Munch would never have titled his work ‘The Scream’, nor Kafka dumped Gregor Samsa, his character in some bin in a street. Then, John Berger would have found more peace in his critical views and the students of history would not have had to learn words like Concentration Camps and Gas Chambers with eyes brimming with tears…

If so, then, the rare genius the twentieth century had ever seen, Albert Camus, who remarked “World War II has brought catastrophic changes in both the physical and spiritual world, toppled world order, destroyed nations, ruined cities and shattered everything which was known in the world. Man has lost the memory of his motherland. In short, the Second World War has led to a divorce between man and his life!” would not have crashed his car into a tree taking his own life…

Do Not Deny Art Any Longer

"Despite evolving so much why has man's violent/animal instinct remained intact?", asked someone to Charles Darwin once. To this his reply was very simple, "man is an organic reality and therefore aggression and selfishness is inherent in his nature."

"Is there no solution to this?" enquired the man once again. "There are ways to prevent man from such basic instincts and for that what we need is 'Art' steeped in culture" replied Darwin. A very honest answer, a knowledge of which, Man, who claims to be modern and invincible, should possess. Art is what makes a human "humane", not wars, not hatred. That is the truth!

If there is anyone who is against the concept of Darwin that Art/ Culture has the power to transform the nature of man, to them, I would like to narrate a story. This story is about a calm and reticent youth, who made history unbearable, for the very reason that he was denied "art".

Do Not Deny Art Any Longer

He was born in 1889, in a small town in Austria. His name was Alois Schicklgruber. Before he came to be known as the notorious Adolf Hitler worldwide, Alois's only goal in life was to become an Artist. With this ambition, he applied to the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna and cleared the first level of examination. But then, the committee which was not satisfied with his artistic talents, denied him a seat. This happened not once but twice, in 1907 and again in 1908. The committee of "experts" had arrived at the conclusion that Hitler's works had "too few heads" and more of houses and therefore his skill lay in architecture than in painting.

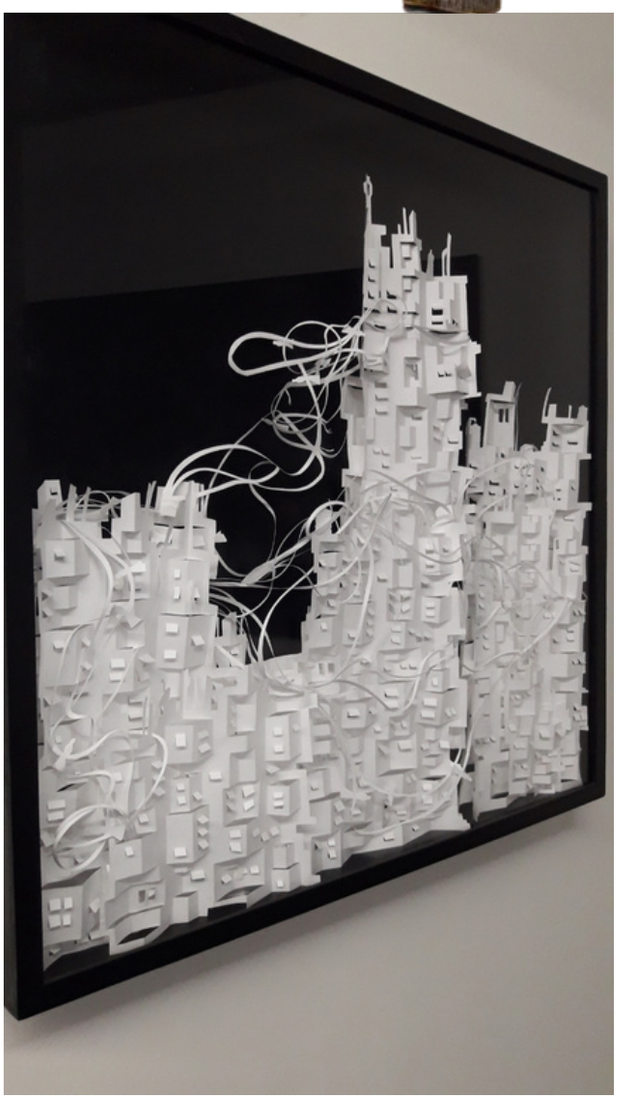
Before the start of the Second World War, in August 1939, during a conversation with the British Ambassador Nevin Anderson, Hitler said, "I am an artist and not a politician. Once the Polish question is settled, I want to end my life as an artist." But, Hitler died being denied the very Art proposed by Darwin and in return what did he offer the world? A death toll of 75 million! 40 million civilians, who include women and children, and 20 million soldiers died as a consequence. Many perished having to face intentional genocide, massacre, disease and starvation. Of more than 11 million people killed by Nazi Germany as part of a planned extermination, 6 million were Jews.

Do Not Deny Art Any Longer

Let us forget the perspective of the committee of “experts” at the Academy who held that Hitler’s paintings should have had “more heads” and not houses. For, is there any artist who hasn’t painted houses during his artistic life? It is nigh impossible to provide the “experts” with proof, cause their demand for “heads” had in fact led to the vandalisation of Art. There is no one left to show the image of the burning houses during Hitler’s time, all because of the failed decision of the “experts”.

At this juncture, comes the significance of the exhibition ‘Lokame Tharavadu’ curated by the Indian artist Bose Krishnamachari. It displays the works of 275 artists across the states in India. It is here, that Darwin’s view of how Art/Culture has the power to transform the individual, has not been just put to practice, but is offered to mankind as a whole.

The manner in which Bose Krishnamachari set the criteria for the selection of artists and their work is quite close to Darwin's concept of the necessity of art. I believe that Bose, the curator of the exhibition, only focuses on few essential things, i.e. if all the artists in the exhibition are constantly constructive and creative, and whether they are expressing their thoughts and concepts honestly. Bose, the curator, is not concerned about the numbers of 'heads' or 'houses' in the artists' works. Rather, it is interesting to find how some artists have exhibited 'heads' and 'houses' diversely! In other words the exhibition showcases how the freedom of the artist is appreciated and upheld.



Do Not
Deny Art
Any Longer

The way in which Bose selected the artists for the exhibition is interesting. He had no academic norms. No bio-data or exhibition history was sought. He travelled to various states in India, to every artist's house/studio and invited them to this fabulous exhibition. Bose even helped some artists who were affected by the pandemic, by volunteering to buy their paintings too. His selection of artists or their work had no traces of personal interest, contempt or revulsion. He was simply astonished by their talent; in spite of being is a brilliant artist himself. Bose, in a way, demonstrates that if artists are valued or recognized by other artists, misconceptions could be evaded.

Bose Krishnamachari has opened the doors of the Lokame Tharavadu to the entire world without conditions. For it is pertinent that people comprehend the pain of creating art and the pain of promoting it. This will help them appreciate Art and realise how Art is not a weapon but a defence against a weapon.

Do Not
Deny Art
Any Longer

I can state with certainty that this popular exhibition will stand as a separate chapter in the history of the contemporary world of art. All the people of Kerala should go on a pilgrimage to 'Lokame Tharavadu' in Alappuzha; the Pilgrimage of Art. Don't deny the 'art' suggested by Darwin anymore. Remember, humanity will only survive on an art-based culture. Lokame Tharavadu is unique and it is because of the uniqueness of Bose Krishnamachari himself!

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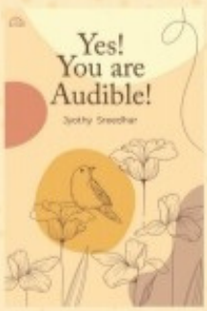

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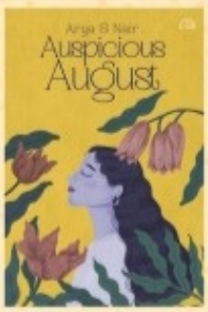

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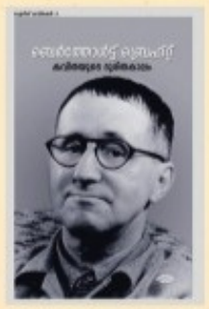
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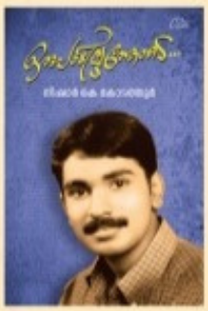
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Poem

Dr. Aysha Munira Rasheed (PhD) is professor in the Department of English,

Aligarh Muslim University, India. She spends her time reading, writing, teaching, learning and mothering. She participates in panel discussions on topics of social, cultural and literary relevance.

From time to time, she gives in to her creative impulses.

She is happy going by her first name unless academic protocol demands otherwise.

"people you may know"

do I figure on their list of
people you may know"?
if I do, do they think of
being my friends?
or do they instead consider
the considerations of
classics and trends,
of losses and gains,
what goes up
or bends?

you may ask, don't they
figure on my list of
"people you may know",
and if they do, by glancing
at it, what do I undergo?
is it happiness of discovery
or do I prefer
running into my tower of
ivory,
or digging a burrow.

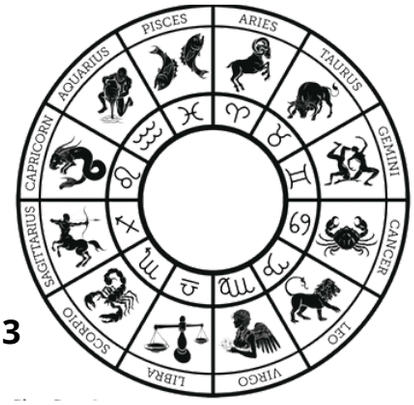
well, I say, I'm a li'l busy
balancing my liminal life,
between what's right and
what's wrong
to me and to you
and what makes me survive
trying to live online and off
and somewhere in between
I'm playing a game of
existential peek-a-boo.

~ash
aligarh
aug 30, 2021

WEEKLY Tarot Reading

By: Chaitali Mukherjee

https://youtube.com/c/TarotPriestess1313



Your Next 7 Days

Sep 03-09 2021

ARIES

You will let go of something to receive the new. Rewards and transformation is on the cards. A time to learn huge lessons from your physical experiences that will bring spiritual awakening to not hold your possessions too tightly.

LIBRA

Nostalgia is overpowering you or you are reconnecting with past friends. You need to get out of sadness, boredom and apathy. You are advised to take rest. In this period a bonus, promotion or a lucrative opportunity will come out of the blue !

TAURUS

Deep spiritual union or partnerships are on the cards. You have a firm foundation of abundance in life, so be generous. In career your mastery and hard work will bring great results. Some of you will rapidly move towards your goals. Travel is possible.

SCORPIO

The world is in constant flux, so you need to move with it, you are being called to take action and the time is now. It is an abundant and fertile period for you.Love, beauty and growth surrounds you. A promising new beginning is on the cards.

GEMINI

You will be realizing your inner power by dealing with adverse situations. You are advised not to give in to temptations or greed. An opportunity is arriving for you, unexpectedly, some of you would be honoured for hard work and dedication.

SAGITTARIUS

Kindred support of a group or a teacher will inspire and encourage you. There are obstacles on your path, face them and also control your inner fears. This is a period of big change and prosperity is beginning for you.

CANCER

Don't be fearful of uncertainties and powerful adversaries. Stand your ground, speak the truth. Take authority over your life by wise moves. You will be supported and guided by people and the Universe. Victory and success is on the cards.

CAPRICORN

You are suffering in silence as you are not emotionally connecting to anyone, ask for help. Some of you are making your problems too big and your mind is playing you up. Stand your ground, your goals are within reach, your spiritual team is with you.

LEO

Need for balance and harmony with your inner life. Lifestyle adjustments are required to make a marriage or relationship easy. Some of you are waiting for the right time to move on from a disappointing situation, or make amends to end a problem.

AQUARIUS

You are going through a self realization and that is giving you a sense of triumph as you are getting clarity in a situation of setback. Painful experiences in life make you stronger. You will be guided towards success, keep the faith in your ideas and actions.

VIRGO

A spiritual union with a past friend or a soul mate is on the cards. You are working on creating a firm and solid foundation in career. You are planning and preparing for future expansion and stability. Some of you want to touch foreign shores.

PISCES

Don't give up on a person, task or project because of challenges. A perfect harmony and soul union is on the cards. A pact will be reached in a contentious issue. However you might miss out on taking action on some issue, that will end, before you make a move.

To know more about your reading, please watch her YouTube channel - Link in the Homepage

Tooth Stick...!

Clicked at
Pench National Park

March 2020

By:
Aarzoo Khurana

Portraying KERALA

Munnar

IN & AROUND KOCHI

Centre for Cultural Studies
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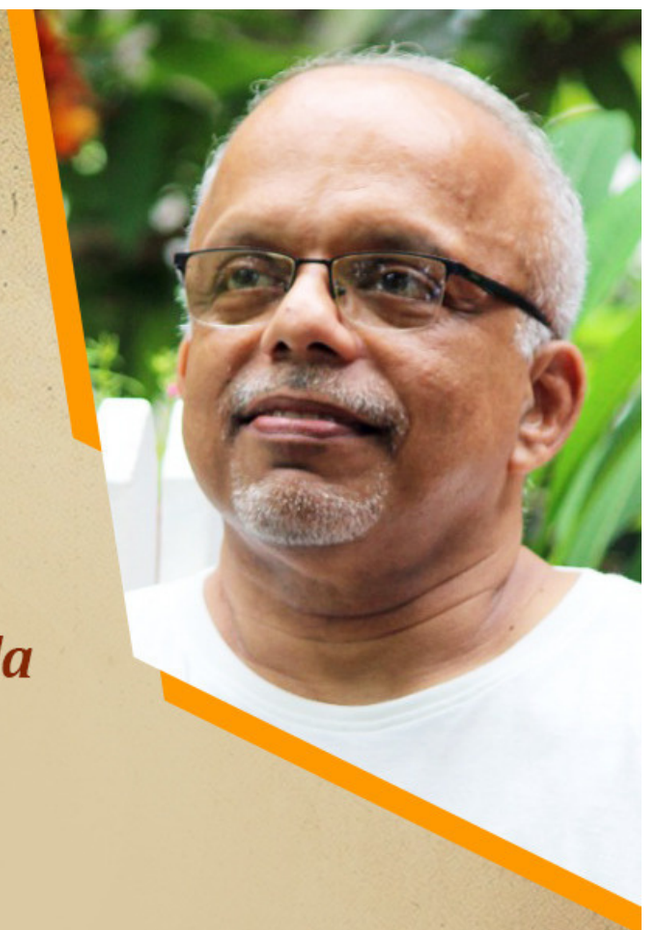
Webinar series

Cultural Studies in/of Keralam:
Politics, Praxis, Methods

Lecture 16 of 24

5 Sep 2021
6.30 pm

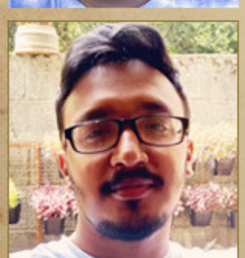


Imaginations of Pleasure:
Against a History of Desire in Kerala

Muraleedharan Tharayil
Senior Faculty, Chetana College of Media and Performing Arts

Respondents

Prijith P. K.
Research Scholar and Queer Rights Activist



Anaz N. S.
Research Scholar
NSS College, Nilamel, Kerala University

The programme is conceived of as a series of 24 fortnightly talks followed by critical responses. All are cordially invited. For participation, contact ***centreforculturalstudiesuok@gmail.com***
Meena T. Pillai, Director, Centre for Cultural Studies

Thank you for READING...

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE

INKOCHI

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

ACROSS CONTINENTS

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25K IN INDIA
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READERS IN
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